

Remarks

Reconsideration and allowance of the above Identified application is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action dated 11/19/2003 the Examiner rejected all of the pending claims 1-5. This Office Action and the references cited therein have been carefully considered and this amendment is now presented in an effort to advance prosecution of the application.

The Examiner rejected claims 1 - 5 under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over Friggstad (6305478) in view of Prairie (604765) or Kinzenbauw (6494154).

Friggstad discloses a seeding machine but does not disclose planting units or a seed hopper that is connected to the planting units by flexible tubes as set forth in the present claims.

Prairie discloses a seeding machine having a main frame segment and left and right wing frame segments, all frame segments provided with planting units. No transport configuration is suggested by Prairie.

Kinzenbaum et al discloses a seeding machine having left and right wing frames with planting units, but does not teach or suggest that the frames or planting units can be pivoted from a working configuration to a transport configuration.

The examiner asserts it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify the seeding machine of Friggstad to include the planting units on the frame as taught by Prairie or Kinzenbauw.

However, not all the elements in Claim 1, for example, are taught or suggested in the cited references, either singly or in combination. For example, there is no teaching or suggestion of providing frame wings with planting units that can be "pivoted to a vertical position" as set forth in Claim 1. The vertical position of the planting unit is shown in the present application in Figures 3 and 5 and is disclosed in paragraphs 005, 006 and 021.

It is therefore believed that the rejection should be withdrawn and that this application is in condition for allowance. Such allowance is respectfully requested.

Any fees or charges due as a result of filing of the present communication may be charged against Deposit Account 04-0525.

Respectfully,


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